1   99. The system of claim 95, wherein:

2   the output device comprises a display screen;

3   the character input device comprises a keyboard; and

4   each character input device element comprises a key.

1   100. A system for filtering a directory having a plurality of records, each

2 record having at least two searchable fields, the system comprising:

3   a character input device, for accepting a character sequence comprising at

4   least one character, each character having a value;

5   a directory filter, coupled to the character input device, for filtering a di-

6   rectory based on comparison of the accepted character sequence

7   with at least two searchable fields; and

8   a display, coupled to the directory filter, for displaying at least a subset of

9   the filtered directory.

1   101. The system of claim 100, wherein the character input device com-

2 prises a keyboard.

1   102. A computer program product comprising a computer-usable me-

2 dium having computer-readable code embodied therein for concurrently accept-

3 ing parameters in at least two contexts, the computer program product compris-

4 ing:

5   computer-readable program code configured to cause a computer to accept a keystroke sequence comprising at least one keystroke,

6

7   each keystroke having a first value, and at least a subset of the

8   keystrokes having a second value;

9   computer-readable program code configured to cause a computer to determine whether the keystroke sequence produces a valid result

10

11   in a first context;

12   computer-readable program code configured to cause a computer to, responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in

13

14   the first context, output first feedback, the first feedback indicating keystroke input according to the first context;

15

16   computer-readable program code configured to cause a computer to, responsive to the keystroke sequence not producing a valid result

17

18   in the first context:

19   determine whether the keystroke sequence produces a valid result

20   in a second context; and

21   responsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in

22   the second context, output second feedback, the second

23   feedback indicating keystroke input according to the second context.

24

1   103. The computer program product of claim 102, wherein the first con-

2   text comprises accepting input for an iterative directory filtering operation on a

3   plurality of directory records.

1   104. The computer program product of claim 103, further comprising:

2   computer-readable program code configured to cause a computer to, re-

3   sponsive to the keystroke sequence producing a valid result in

4   the first context, perform the directory filtering operation using

5   the first value for each of the accepted keystrokes.

1   105. The computer program product of claim 102, wherein at least one of

2   the contexts comprises accepting input for a direct entry operation.

1   106. The computer program product of claim 105, wherein the first con-

2   text comprises accepting input for a telephone number direct entry operation.

1   107. The computer program product of claim 102, wherein the computer-

2   readable program code configured to cause a computer to determine whether the

3   keystroke sequence produces a valid result in a first context comprises computer-

4   readable program code configured to cause a computer to determine whether all

5   of the accepted keystrokes have a numeric value.